

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A hub unit for wheel comprising:
an outer ring having two bearing tracks on its inner circumferential surface;
a hub having a wheel mount flange on the outer end side and an end portion on the axially vehicle center side, said hub having, integrally or as a separate part on its outer circumference, a first bearing track corresponding to the axially vehicle outer end side bearing track of said outer ring;
an inner ring element fitted on said end portion side of said hub, said inner ring element having on its outer circumference a second bearing track opposed to the axially vehicle center side bearing track of said outer ring and being fixed on said end portion by plastically deforming said end portion of said hub radially outwardly; and
rolling members provided between the two bearing tracks of said outer ring and said first and second bearing tracks,
wherein the outer diameter of a portion to be plastically deformed of said end portion is made smaller than the diameter of the portion of the inner ring element that is fitted on the hub, the start point of said small diameter portion is arranged to be situated between the start point of a

chamfered portion on the inner circumferential surface of the inner ring element and the vehicle center side end face of the inner ring element, and said end portion is plastically deformed radially outwardly to fasten and fix said inner ring element.

2. (Currently Amended) A hub unit for wheel comprising:
an outer ring having two bearing tracks on its inner circumferential surface;

a hub having a wheel mount flange on the outer end side and an end portion on the axially vehicle center side, said hub having, as a separate part or integrally on its outer circumference, a first bearing track corresponding to the axially vehicle outer end side bearing track of said outer ring;

an inner ring element fitted on said end portion side of said hub, said inner ring element having on its outer circumference a second bearing track opposed to the axially vehicle center side bearing track of said outer ring and being fixed on said end portion by plastically deforming said end portion of said hub radially outwardly; and

rolling members provided between the two bearing tracks of said outer ring and said first and second bearing tracks,

wherein a continuous circumferential groove is provided on the inner circumferential surface of said inner ring element ~~adjaceent to a chamfered portion on an inner end portion of the inner circumferential surface at an axially more vehicle center side than the second bearing track.~~

3. (New) A hub unit for wheel according to claim 1, wherein said portion to be plastically deformed of said inner ring element has a radius between 0.2 mm – 1.00 mm smaller than that of said portion of said inner ring element that is fitted on the hub.